



CONTENTS

	Page
Agenda item 15: Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency	1

President: Miss Angie E. BROOKS (Liberia).

AGENDA ITEM 15

Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

1. The PRESIDENT: I have pleasure in inviting Mr. Sigvard Eklund, Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to present to the General Assembly the report of the Agency for the year 1968-1969.¹

2. Mr. EKLUND (Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency): The General Assembly has been devoting special attention to the peaceful uses of atomic energy. This attention reflects the common concern that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [resolution 2373 (XXII)] should not only contribute to peace and security but should also bring tangible benefits to the economic and scientific advancement of all countries and in particular of the developing countries. It is clear from the different reports before the General Assembly that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has given careful and detailed attention to the recommendations made by the General Assembly last year.

3. The interests reflected in the recommendations of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States,² as given in its Final Document,³ fall into several categories: access to nuclear information; access to special fissionable materials; sources for finance for nuclear activities in developing countries; enlargement of the representation of non-nuclear-weapon States on the Board of Governors of IAEA; international procedures in connexion with peaceful nuclear explosions; and the adaptation of the Agency's safeguards system to the responsibilities given to it by the non-proliferation Treaty.

4. The General Assembly has considered the Agency's reports on these matters, as well as the reports of the Secretary-General and the Secretary-General's group of experts. I shall therefore confine my remarks to a few of

¹ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Annual Report of the Board of Governors to the General Conference, 1 July 1968-30 June 1969* (Vienna, July 1969) and supplementary report; transmitted to the Members of the General Assembly by notes of the Secretary-General (A/7637 and Add.1).

² Held at Geneva from 29 August to 28 September 1968.

³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session*, agenda item 96, document A/7277 and Corr.1 and 2.

the major unresolved questions that will absorb our efforts in the years ahead.

5. As the Assembly is aware, the Agency's General Conference has responded to the wishes of the General Assembly by requesting the Board of Governors to make every effort to present to the Conference in September 1970 an acceptable amendment of the Agency's statute regarding the enlargement of the Board. It is gratifying to note that Member States have been seeking a solution in a constructive manner. I am hopeful that an early solution to this problem can be found.

6. Peaceful nuclear explosions have been considered in both the General Assembly and the Agency. Moreover, high-level technical discussions took place between the United States and the Soviet Union earlier this year. The co-operation of the nuclear-weapon States is obviously of the essence in this connexion. The two countries mentioned have already submitted extensive technical documentation on this matter to the Agency.

7. I have said that I share the expectation that in the future nuclear explosions may be used with advantage in both developed and developing countries for large-scale engineering projects. It seems that the first practical use will be underground, in recovering gas and oil and in extracting minerals from low-grade or inaccessible deposits; and later perhaps the excavation of harbours and canals and the building of tunnels.

8. The Agency is making preparations to provide the international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes when necessary and technologically possible. For the time being the Agency's role will be that of promoting the broadest possible exchange of authoritative information about the potential, limitations and development of nuclear explosive technology and on its cost and safety aspects. The Agency will convene an international meeting at Vienna from 2 to 6 March 1970 at which all interested member States may be represented.⁴ A panel preparing the programme will meet at Vienna in a few days' time.

9. I should now like to turn to the question of a fund of special fissionable materials. In response to the non-nuclear-weapon States resolution [resolution 2456 (XXIII)], some countries producing special fissionable materials have indicated their readiness to increase an already existing supply by 5,000 kilogrammes when required. In the future member States of the Agency will be able to obtain their requirements for nuclear fuels for power stations through the Agency and one member State has already indicated

⁴ Panel on the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Explosions.

that it plans to use Agency procedures for the fuel for its first nuclear power plant.

10. A question of special and understandable interest to the developing countries is the financing of nuclear projects. The Secretary-General's group of experts went into this matter in some depth [see A/7568].

11. It is obvious that the funds made available through the Agency's technical assistance programme are not adequate to finance major nuclear projects. Nevertheless, they play a pioneering role in seeking out and giving an initial impetus to promising undertakings. I strongly hope that the recommendations made by the Secretary-General group of experts will be reinforced by the General Assembly and bring substantially greater resources to this technical assistance programme.

12. The United Nations Development Programme has amply shown its effectiveness in launching projects of the pilot plant and pre-investment type. The Secretary-General's Group has recommended that Governments should re-examine their own positions in this regard with a view to according higher priority to nuclear projects in the requests that they make to the United Nations Development Programme.

13. For major nuclear plants, such as power reactors, external financing beyond the scope of the Agency is required. Following resolution GC(XIII)/RES/256 adopted by the Agency's General Conference in September, the Agency is now engaged in a comprehensive study of the matter. The study will cover the likely capital and foreign exchange requirements for nuclear projects in developing countries during the next decade as well as the ways and means of meeting these requirements on favourable terms and the role the Agency could play in this connexion.

14. Whatever information we may be able to produce and whatever proposals we may be able to make, it is obvious that the ultimate decisions rest not with us but with the international financing institutions, including the World Bank, and it is perhaps in that forum and within the meeting rooms of the various regional development banks that Member States should make their views known.

15. In this connexion, I should like to point out that seven developing countries are now building or are on the point of ordering nuclear power plants. In every case so far the arrangement has been purely bilateral and has involved rather favourable financing by the reactor manufacturing country.

16. The International Atomic Energy Agency has in the past played an ancillary role in the selection of plant locations, as well as in health and safety matters. It has provided technical assistance and has helped to evaluate the bids submitted. It is, I believe, to the credit of the countries in question that in almost every case the Agency will also be applying its safeguards to the nuclear plant. It must, however, also be a cause of some concern that while international machinery will be employed for safeguard purposes, the various agencies of the United Nations family are playing so small a part in helping the developing countries to evaluate, introduce and finance nuclear power.

17. With regard to the concern expressed by the non-nuclear-weapon States about access to nuclear information, I am glad to be able to strike a more positive note. The Agency's International Nuclear Information Service, which I have described to the General Assembly in previous years, will begin operation in 1970. This will be the first world-wide computerized exchange of information of its type launched within the United Nations family.

18. Also under the heading of information, it is of interest that in July 1969 the first major international conference on atomic energy to be held in Africa took place at Kinshasa.⁵ The Conference was sponsored by the Organization for African Unity and the Agency provided substantial assistance in both the scientific and operational aspects.

19. The General Assembly has taken another step of importance in the exchange of information about atomic energy. This is the decision to hold the Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, which is to take place at Geneva in 1971 [resolution 2406 (XXII)]. As in the past, the Agency will have full responsibility for the scientific programme and will co-operate with the United Nations in the organizational aspects of the Conference.

20. The General Assembly has also approved a major conference to be held in 1972 on problems of the human environment. I feel bound to point out that there is a tendency to give undue prominence to the role of radiation in discussions of environmental effects of modern technology.

21. In this connexion, I should like to refer to the report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation. In its 1966 report⁶ the Committee states that low activity wastes released by facilities using nuclear technology for industrial, medical and research purposes contributed a negligible fraction of the doses received by human population and that accidents at nuclear establishments have been only of local significance. From the start, the utmost care has been exercised to control the release of artificial radioactivity into the environment — indeed, far more care has been taken with, and far more rigid legislation and standards are applied to, nuclear energy, than to any other potential source of environmental contamination. Far from being a major contributor to the pollution of the environment, nuclear energy can be a factor in diminishing pollution if it is used as a substitute for other sources of electric power, such as coal and oil.

22. I have referred to the interest expressed by the non-nuclear-weapon States in the adaptation of the Agency's safeguards system to the responsibilities given by the non-proliferation Treaty. In particular the non-nuclear-weapon States look towards developments that would keep the cost of effective safeguards as low as possible by rationalizing and simplifying procedures, concentrating on points of maximum risk and using instruments and devices that would mechanize safeguard operations and diminish the possibility of industrial espionage. Progress is being

⁵ Symposium on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in Africa, held from 28 July to 1 August 1969.

⁶ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Supplement No. 14 (A/6314 and Corr.1).*

made in the Agency in those directions. A special Division of Development has been created which is concentrating on research and on systems analysis. A group of consultants has made very useful recommendations on criteria for safeguard procedures. Several panels have been held with a view to developing and further rationalizing the system. Progress has been made in recruiting and training inspectors.

23. With regard to significant political progress, I should like to single out the entry into force of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America.⁷ I was privileged to take part together with the Secretary-General in the opening session of the first conference held under that Treaty.⁸ Mexico, which played such a constructive part in launching the Treaty, has concluded an agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency which places all its nuclear activities under Agency safeguards.

24. The Agency's safeguards system now covers 73 reactors in 31 countries, of which two are nuclear-weapon States. If we look at the world map, we find that all member States of the Agency possessing reactors, in Latin America, in Africa south of the Sahara, in South-East Asia and the Far East, have placed those reactors under Agency safeguards. Pakistan has also just placed its first nuclear power plant under Agency safeguards and India is about to follow suit with its first plant which started operation in April 1969. These developments are most encouraging. In Europe and the Middle East, on the other hand, the coverage of Agency safeguards is still far from complete. Twenty-six countries in those two areas have reactors; only nine have submitted them, or some of them, to Agency safeguards.

25. In the majority of the cases to which I have referred, the Agency has taken over safeguard responsibilities from existing bilateral agreements. The further extension of safeguard responsibilities will depend principally upon the progress made in ratifying the non-proliferation Treaty.

26. All non-nuclear-weapon States of the European community have now signed the Treaty, and I hope that this may help dispel the hesitations of other States which have large nuclear energy or source material programmes. Three of the nuclear-weapon States have ratified, while the fourth has declared that, though it will not sign, it will nevertheless conduct its affairs in exactly the same way as the States adhering to the Treaty. With the ratification by the three depository Governments and the others that will doubtless soon follow, we may expect to see the Treaty enter into force in the comparatively near future. If it is to remain viable in the long term it must be followed by other steps towards disarmament and control that will bind the nuclear-weapon as well as the non-nuclear-weapon States. The safeguards under the Treaty must not fall onerously on the non-nuclear-weapon States. It will be essential to establish and implement a system of safeguards inspection acceptable to all and to carry out the duties of inspection with a minimum of friction and in a way that ensures their maximum acceptability to the Member States concerned. It

is necessary to establish the confidence of Governments that essential commercial and national aspects of their nuclear installations are protected. It is important that the Agency should devote all possible care and effort to this task.

27. However, as many representatives at the thirteenth General Conference⁹ pointed out, it is also important that an equilibrium should be maintained between the Agency's safeguard operations and those which are of direct economic benefit to Member States—a balance that is reflected in the non-proliferation Treaty between Article III on the one hand and Articles IV and V on the other. It is to be hoped therefore that the concentration of international attention on the Agency's work and problems that we have seen in the last 18 months—an attention which we welcome and from which we draw encouragement—will take tangible form in increased resources for the Agency's programmes.

28. The non-proliferation Treaty has been criticized mainly for drawing a distinction between nuclear and non-nuclear-weapon States. Yet one should ask: what is the alternative to the non-proliferation Treaty? As I have pointed out before, as a result of the growth of nuclear power about 70 tons of plutonium will be produced each year by 1980. About one third of that will be in present non-nuclear countries; this would correspond to some 100 atomic bombs of minimum size per week. These figures open frightening perspectives. Perhaps I may be permitted to remind the Assembly, as I reminded the Agency's General Conference, of the report that was presented here last year entitled *Effects of the Possible Use of Nuclear Weapons and the Security and Economic Implications for States of the Acquisition and Further Development of These Weapons*.¹⁰ That report, prepared by an outstanding group from non-nuclear, as well as nuclear-weapon States, some of whom are members of the Secretary-General's Scientific Advisory Committee, is well worth re-reading.

29. It is clear that the primary motive which inspired the creation of the International Atomic Energy Agency was the feeling among statesmen and scientists that in atomic energy mankind had acquired an energy source immensely stronger than anything known until then. Consequently, institutional steps would have to be taken to foster its peaceful applications for the benefit of all countries, while at the same time controlling its military deployment. It seems to me that the reasons for setting up the IAEA to pursue those objectives are more compelling today than ever before. There has been repeated consensus in the General Assembly and elsewhere that the prevention of a further proliferation of nuclear weapons is not only essential for international security, but is also the bridge that must be crossed to further other measures of arms control and disarmament. The wide acceptance of the Agency's safeguard system and the non-proliferation Treaty provide nations with a great part of the means for obviating the stark prospect that Secretary-General U Thant once described when he said that "a world containing, 10, 15 or perhaps even more nuclear Powers could be a world confronting itself finally with the question, of its own survival".

⁷ Signed at Tlatelolco, Mexico, on 14 February 1967.

⁸ Preliminary meeting on the establishment of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America, held at Mexico City from 24 to 28 June 1969.

⁹ Held at Vienna from 23 to 29 September 1969.

¹⁰ United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.IX.13.

30. The PRESIDENT: Before calling on the next speaker I should like, on behalf of the General Assembly, to thank Mr. Eklund for the statement he has made in introducing the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

31. Mr. Patrick SHAW (Australia): First of all I should like to thank the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the comprehensive statement which he has just made on the important activities of the IAEA for the year 1968-1969. I should also like, on behalf of the Australian delegation, to congratulate Dr. Eklund on his reappointment for a further term of four years as Director-General of the Agency. The thirteenth regular session of the General Conference, in taking that decision, acted wisely, for the experience which Dr. Eklund has brought to bear in the Agency's activities in recent years will be of importance and value for its future activities.

32. I now have pleasure in introducing and commending draft resolution A/L.582 concerning the report of IAEA for 1968-1969 [A/7637 and Add.1]. That resolution is sponsored by Australia, Brazil and Hungary. Delegations will note that the draft resolution follows closely the form of resolutions which the General Assembly has customarily adopted on the report of the Agency in past years. The draft resolution would have the Assembly take note of the report and would request the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director-General of the Agency the records of the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly relating to the Agency's activities. The sponsors of the draft resolution believe that it is appropriate that the International Atomic Energy Agency should be invited to take into account the proceedings of the General Assembly in its future work.

33. Having referred to the draft resolution before us, I should like also to speak briefly on certain aspects of the Agency's annual report to the General Assembly. I do not, however, propose to comment in detail on the topics which have been discussed by Dr. Eklund this morning. The report of IAEA consists of two documents: the annual report of the Board of Governors to the General Conference [A/7637] and a supplement [A/7637/Add.1] dealing with subsequent developments, including action taken by the thirteenth General Conference in September 1969. The annual report of the Board of Governors, as usual, is a comprehensive document, giving up-to-date information on such important topics as technical assistance and training, food and agriculture, safeguards, life sciences and physical sciences. In addition, information is contained on developments in the field of nuclear power and reactors, in health, safety and waste management, and on co-operation between the Agency and other international bodies. The supplementary report gives a comprehensive summary of discussions on matters of particular interest to members of the Agency at the thirteenth session of the General Conference.

34. In accordance with resolution GC(XII)/RES/245 of the twelfth General Conference of the Agency, the Director-General was requested to initiate studies of the procedures that the Agency should employ in performing a role to provide services in connexion with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. A special *ad hoc* Committee was established in which all member States were invited to take part with a view to helping the Board to draw up its

report. The General Conference requested the Director-General on 29 September 1969 to continue studies in this field.

35. The supplement also records action taken by the Board of Governors concerning a review of article VI of the Agency's Statute, relating to the composition of the Board. It records that the thirteenth General Conference in resolution GC(XIII)/RES/261 commended the intention of the Board to continue study of this question. The Conference requested the Board to make every effort to present a draft amendment in sufficient time to permit its consideration at the fourteenth session of the Conference.

36. Further points raised in the report concern the fund of special fissionable materials and the financing of nuclear projects. On the latter point the Director-General, as he has mentioned this morning, has been requested to make a comprehensive study of the likely capital and foreign exchange requirements for nuclear projects in developing countries during the next decade and of ways and means to secure financing for such projects from international and other sources on favourable terms. He has been asked to make suggestions concerning a constructive role which the Agency could play in that regard.

37. The text of the resolution adopted by the General Conference of IAEA on peaceful nuclear explosions, the review of article VI and the financing of nuclear projects are included in the report of the proceedings of the thirteenth regular session of the General Conference [A/7637/Add.1].

38. Having spoken as one of the sponsors of draft resolution A/L.582, I should now like to make a few comments on behalf of the Australian delegation. As the Australian representative at the IAEA thirteenth General Conference said in the general debate in September 1969, Australia values its relationships with other member States in the field of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. We have had close and continuing relationships with a number of countries, including in particular the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. We have also been glad to establish close co-operation with countries such as New Zealand, Japan, India and France. This co-operation has in some cases taken the form of exchanges of personnel. In other cases there have been exchanges of publications and scientific literature—for example, with a number of Eastern European countries. The Australian Government looks forward to continuing its co-operation with other members of the Agency in the interest of developing further the potential advantages of nuclear technology. We support the need for the availability of relevant information to assist in advancing the purposes of the Agency—for example, through the Agency's International Nuclear Information System. We are particularly conscious of the benefits which can flow to the developing countries in this respect and we ourselves are looking forward to the day when Australia's productive capacity will be enhanced by the introduction of nuclear power.

39. I should like to add at this point that Australia welcomes the admission of Ireland to membership of the Agency. We are sure that Ireland will play as constructive a role in IAEA as it does in other international bodies of which it is a member, particularly the United Nations.

40. In conclusion I should like to state that Australia is particularly honoured that Sir Philip Baxter, Chairman of the Australian Atomic Energy Commission, has been appointed Chairman of the Board of Governors of IAEA for the period 1969-1970. My Government has always supported the activities of the Agency with enthusiasm. We believe that the Agency must play an important part in the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in accordance with its statutory objectives and functions. Australia will use its best efforts to ensure that the Agency is able to make progress on the important questions which it will discuss during the next year.

41. Mr. ARAÚJO CASTRO (Brazil): I should like to say a few words to express the satisfaction of the Brazilian delegation in sponsoring, together with the delegations of Australia and Hungary, draft resolution A/L.582. It has become a sort of tradition that the countries of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Board of Governors of IAEA jointly sponsor the draft resolution on the annual report of the Agency and it is with particular pleasure that this year my delegation discharges this duty with the delegations of Australia and Hungary.

42. I am sure that all delegations have read with interest the annual report of IAEA [A/7637 and Add.1] and have noted the developments in the Agency's work during the past year. While some encouraging progress has been made as a result of the efforts of the Agency in seeking to accelerate the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world, the report points to the need for further intensive action with the co-operation of the international community.

43. The Agency's report notes that, while developing countries are showing great interest in nuclear energy in general and in new applications of that energy, their situation as regards one of the most important aspects of that technology, power reactors, promises no significant improvement in the short term. In fact, as is stated in the report, the proportion of the plants built or to be built outside the main industrial countries is at present only 2 per cent. It is likely to be much less than 5 per cent in 1975 and still under 5 per cent in 1980. It is to be hoped that through the efforts of the Agency, such as those described in paragraphs 74 to 77 of the report, these dispiriting figures may be revised upwards in the future.

44. In connexion with the need for a rapid increase in the contributions of nuclear technology to an acceleration of the economic development of developing countries, I wish to draw the attention of the Assembly to resolution GC(XIII)/RES/256 of the General Conference of the Agency. By that resolution, the General Conference, realizing that the benefits of the peaceful application of nuclear energy should be shared by and made accessible to all nations and that the growing disparity in their distribution among developed and developing countries should be reduced, requested the Director-General to make a comprehensive study of the likely capital and foreign exchange requirements for nuclear projects in developing countries during the next decade and of ways and means to secure financing for such projects from international and other sources on favourable terms, particularly in the form of grants or long-term loans at low interest.

45. I should also like to note the efforts made so by the Board of Governors to carry out a review of article VI of the statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency and that the General Conference expects to have a draft amendment on that article available for consideration at its fourteenth session. This has been a most interesting session in respect of matters related to the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency. We have had the opportunity of discussing various subjects related to the activities of the Agency, not only in the context of the annual report but also in connexion with other documents prepared by the Agency or with its assistance, notably under item 31 of our agenda, Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States, consideration of which was concluded by the First Committee on 10 December 1969.

46. Delegations will have noted that draft resolution A/L.582 requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency the records of the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly relating to the Agency's activities, so that the Agency may take into account in its future work the views expressed and the positions taken by all delegations during the debates on matters related to the Agency. We believe that this may be a very helpful procedure and may contribute further to co-operation and co-ordination between the United Nations and the Agency in matters of common interest. Therefore I wish to recommend the present draft resolution for approval by the General Assembly.

47. As a final word, I wish to congratulate Mr. Eklund on his reappointment for another term of four years as Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency. The delegation of Brazil listened to this address with great attention and interest and although it cannot agree with some of the views he expressed mainly in connexion with the non-proliferation Treaty, it wishes to thank him for his continued dedication to the purposes and objectives of the International Atomic Energy Agency. With all due respect we take exception to some of his views, but the delegation of Brazil wishes again to express its high respect for his competence, ability and dedication.

48. Mr. CSATORDAY (Hungary): First of all I should like to congratulate Mr. Sigvard Eklund on his re-election as Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency and express on behalf of my delegation our appreciation of his eloquent and comprehensive statement.

49. The Hungarian People's Republic has always followed with great attention the activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency and is pleased to note the positive results it has obtained. It is our conviction and hope that the Agency will in the future satisfy to an increasing extent the demands made on it by various countries. The fact that during the past few years the activity of the Agency has developed considerably and that its role and authority have grown is a natural consequence of the significant progress made in international life by such important milestones as the partial nuclear test ban Treaty,¹¹ the Treaty on the Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other

¹¹ Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water, signed in Moscow on 5 August 1963.

Celestial Bodies [*resolution 2222 (XXI)*] and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [*resolution 2373 (XXII)*].

50. Under the provisions of the non-proliferation Treaty, the Agency must perform important tasks which it has the duty to fulfil in accordance with the purposes laid down in its Constitution. True to the policy in pursuance of which the Hungarian People's Republic ratified the non-proliferation Treaty, the Hungarian representative at the conferences of the International Atomic Energy Agency has repeatedly stated our positive stand to the effect that, in our opinion, the Agency is the appropriate organ for effective control of the implementation of the non-proliferation Treaty, since it has the necessary experience in this field. That experience obviously makes it possible to develop the already existing safeguard system in conformity with the magnitude of the new tasks. We should like to stress here, however, that what we have in mind is a development of the system, an improvement of control and not a slackening. We consider it essential for the system to make use of the methods worked out by the different national laboratories, because only in this way is it possible to imagine the accomplishment of the enormous technical and organizational tasks imposed by the control of the non-proliferation Treaty. We think it is indispensable in the interests of effective control to develop further the network of inspectors, according to an equitable geographical distribution. I should like to emphasize at the same time that we are looking forward with interest to the draft of the treaty with respect to control which the International Atomic Energy Agency is to conclude with the parties to the non-proliferation Treaty.

51. Another no less important aspect of the application of the non-proliferation Treaty is the solution of the technical, health and legal questions related to atomic explosions conducted for peaceful purposes. We are of the opinion that there is very much to be done in this field and the only competent international organization having the necessary experience to perform those tasks is the International Atomic Energy Agency.

52. In addition to the above-mentioned questions, I should like to stress that, in the opinion of my delegation, the balanced development of other fields of activity of the Agency should be continued. We think that technical assistance is an important part of the Agency's activities and should be developed further. Concerning the scientific information service of the Agency, we consider the establishment of the International Nuclear Information Service a significant step, and are pleased to note the results attained so far. This system is being developed progressively with the participation and for the good of Member States.

53. In conclusion, I wish to point out again—and emphatically—that, in the case of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is supposed to be a universal organization, we deem it inadmissible that a number of important States which have produced considerable results in the peaceful uses of atomic energy and which have even ratified the non-proliferation Treaty are being kept out of the Agency for political reasons.

54. In evaluating the Agency's report for 1968 and 1969, [*A/7637 and Add.1*], I wish to emphasize the intention of

the Hungarian Government of promoting as best it can the success of the Agency's activities. This is evidenced, I think, by the measures and initiatives we have taken so far. We hope our relations will develop favourably in the future as well.

55. Mr. WHALLEY (United States of America): The United States delegation wishes to express its considerable satisfaction with the performance of the International Atomic Energy Agency during the past year. The Agency's activities have drawn a great deal of attention in recent months because of the important prospective responsibilities it will assume pursuant to the Treaty on non-proliferation. In addition, a number of the Agency's activities are related to the recommendations of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States—recommendations which were discussed both this year and last year in the First Committee.

56. We are encouraged by the good work being done at Vienna to prepare the Agency for the broadening of its responsibilities which would result from the entry into force of the non-proliferation Treaty. As we have indicated in some detail in the First Committee, we have also been quite pleased to note that the Agency has had under way, or has initiated, several activities which result directly from the recommendations of the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States.

57. One provision of the non-proliferation Treaty, which would affect the Agency even though it is not a party to the Treaty, is the request in article IV that all parties should facilitate the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials, and technological information, bearing in mind particularly the needs of the developing countries. Since its inception, the Agency has been facilitating such co-operation and assistance as one of its main objectives. Two current examples of particular significance are the preparations under way for the establishment in 1970 of a new International Nuclear Information Service, under which the Agency will receive reports of new nuclear literature from members, prepare bibliographic indexes and assign keywords and make this available to members in conventional and magnetic-tape form. Another can be found in the contribution of the Agency to the preparations for the Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, to be held at Geneva in 1971. There also are many other examples of the International Atomic Energy Agency's activities, all relevant to facilitating the transfer of materials, equipment, information and assistance relevant to the promotion of the peaceful atom.

58. Indeed, the Agency has been the principal international body concerned with fostering the peaceful uses of atomic energy and it has made numerous important contributions to that end in the 11 years of its existence. The United States strongly believes that IAEA must continue to be the focal point in the United Nations family for dealing with this subject and we are pleased that there appears to have been a broad reaffirmation of this point over the past year by the great majority of States.

59. Article V of the non-proliferation Treaty contemplates that benefits of peaceful nuclear explosions will be made available under attractive conditions to the non-nuclear-

weapon States parties to the Treaty. Those benefits are to be provided through an appropriate international body or they may be furnished on a bilateral basis. The United States is firmly on record as favouring the view that IAEA should perform the responsibilities anticipated for an international body under article V and the events of the past year have demonstrated that the majority of States appear to share our view. We have been particularly pleased with the preparations that have been made by the Agency for defining its prospective responsibilities in that field. This question was the subject of a special report by the International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors [A/7637/Add.1, paras. 2-4]. That report was prepared with the participation of all interested member States and recently approved without objection by the IAEA General Conference.

60. It concludes that the performance of the functions of the international body referred to in article V of the non-proliferation Treaty, as well as the international observation called for by that article, are within the Agency's technical competence and clearly fall within the scope of its statutory functions. The report also notes that the Agency should approach this subject on an evolutionary basis, bearing in mind the still experimental status of this technology. The Secretary-General's report on the establishment of an international service for nuclear explosions also concludes that the "technical expertise and statutory provisions of IAEA are convincingly supported" and that the Agency should "take on the role of the international service for the peaceful uses of nuclear explosions" [A/7678, para. 17]. The First Committee has been studying the Secretary-General's report, and I understand that the majority of the members are pleased with the results of the Agency's studies to date and believe they should be continued.

61. The Agency has also made significant progress in reviewing the composition of the Board of Governors. The *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Whole to Review Article VI of the Statute has met three times, and is in fact meeting again today. Some 50 member States have participated in these meetings and a number of proposals have been considered. The thirteenth General Conference of IAEA adopted a resolution noting that certain areas of consensus had emerged and requesting the Board of Governors to make every effort to present a draft amendment in sufficient time to permit its consideration by the General Conference at its fourteenth session in September 1970. There is an understandable desire on the part of some States to rectify the anomalies which exist in the Board of Governors and to make the Board more representative. At the same time, the complexity of the problems must be realistically recognized and appreciated. It is our earnest hope that we shall, over the next several months, be able to arrive at a suitable and equitable amendment to the Statute which will be sufficiently attractive to command the necessary two-thirds support of the membership. The United States plans to give its active support to the achievement of that objective.

62. We are pleased to note that the Agency's technical assistance programme has been administered most effectively, recognizing the chronic lack of funds in this area. During 1968, according to the Agency's figures, 67 countries—about two thirds of IAEA member States—were

recipients of one or more components of the Agency's technical assistance programme—experts, equipment and fellowships. During that year, the Agency provided the services of 185 experts or visiting professors, supplied equipment worth about \$528,000 and awarded 456 scholarships.

63. This portion of the Agency's programme is funded by voluntary contributions from member States. Never have more than two thirds of the Agency's member States made voluntary contributions towards the IAEA's \$2 million target figure. To alleviate the continuing deficit of funds for the Agency's technical assistance programme, we urge all IAEA member States to make voluntary contributions to the Agency's operational budget to the fullest extent possible. Resolution GC(XIII)/RES/254 adopted by the General Conference in September 1969 draws attention to this problem. For our part, we are committed to continue our support for this programme and urge all of the Agency's member States to make the same pledge.

64. We also note that IAEA has been working hard on ways to simplify the safeguards system. The Department of Safeguards and Inspection has been reorganized and special attention has been given to the elaboration of a systems analysis which will serve as a basis for formulating technical criteria and guidelines for applying safeguards to different situations. A group of high-level consultants from various countries has studied certain aspects of the safeguards system, and this was followed by a successful panel meeting on systems analysis. As regards other activities in the safeguards field, the Agency's field operations included inspection of fissionable materials in reactors in several countries and the assignment of a resident inspection for about three months to a United States chemical-processing facility located at West Valley, New York.

65. With regard to other programmes of the Agency, we are particularly encouraged by the joint efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Food and Agriculture Organization on the use of nuclear energy for controlling and eradicating insect pests, producing improved varieties of grains and preserving food; by the current programmes, including co-operative ventures with Member States, on the desalination of water, using nuclear energy as a source of power; and by the provision of advice to Member States in several fields, such as reactor siting and the disposal of nuclear waste.

66. In sum, we believe the Agency has performed its functions in a commendable fashion and we are confident that it will continue to do so. Our confidence is particularly well-founded in view of the reappointment of Mr. Sigvard Eklund as Director-General of IAEA. Mr. Eklund has discharged those functions for the past eight years with great distinction and understanding and he has been most adroit at harmonizing the viewpoints of a variety of Member States. We are also especially pleased that he will carry on for another four years.

67. Mr. STRADOWSKI (Poland): On behalf of the Polish delegation, I should like to extend to Mr. Eklund our sincere congratulations on his election to another term of office.

68. The annual report of the Board of Governors for the period July 1968 to June 1969 [*A/7637 and Add.1*] represents a clear, concise and factual account of the role played by the International Atomic Energy Agency in the promotion and development of the peaceful use of atomic energy. I should like to express our appreciation for the remarkable role played by the Board of Governors and the distinguished Director-General, Mr. Eklund, in the service of advancing international nuclear co-operation and thus contributing to the strengthening of peace and security.
69. The activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the past, and in particular in the period under review, have grown very rapidly owing to the readiness of that institution to accept new responsibilities.
70. The report indicates the extent and range of the peaceful application of nuclear energy in industry, agriculture, physical science, nuclear power and reactors, medicine, hydrology, geology, etc.
71. The possibilities of expanding the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in disseminating valuable technical and technological assistance and data in the nuclear field also constitute a major step forward in the sphere of international co-operation. IAEA resolution GC(XIII)/RES/256 of 29 September 1969 envisaged the considerable expansion of the scope of its investment assistance to developing countries in order to promote the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and to facilitate the delivery of necessary services, equipment and fissionable materials. We believe, however, that a greater effort is needed in this area in the years to come to satisfy the realistic aspirations of the countries concerned.
72. IAEA resolution GC(XIII)/RES/258, dated 29 September 1969, encourages the desire of the Agency to take on a new responsibility with the entry into force of the non-proliferation Treaty. We are gratified by the fact that a number of matters are currently under study and consideration in order to ensure the important role of safeguarding and inspecting the implementation of the non-proliferation Treaty.
73. In accepting such responsibility, the International Atomic Energy Agency is enabled to fulfil its major peaceful goal, expectation and challenge, of safeguarding the manufacture and distribution of fissionable materials for peaceful purposes.
74. We note with great satisfaction that a number of States have already concluded agreements with IAEA and have accepted the safeguard system as set forth in the non-proliferation Treaty. Thus, the functions of control specified in article III of the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency are not a dead letter but a vital factor and constructive element in establishing and administering genuine ways toward the strengthening of international confidence.
75. Article V of the non-proliferation Treaty envisages and favours the possibility of non-nuclear States carrying out nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, under supervision or control, if they are not used in such a way as to further military purposes. The report of IAEA and resolution GC(XIII)/RES/258 draw attention to the importance of such a solution and the function of this organization as postulated by a great number of delegations which participated in the thirteenth General Conference at Vienna in September 1969. Poland contributed actively to this constructive approach and decision.
76. In this context, one problem is still open and deserves the particular consideration of the United Nations. Some members of the International Atomic Energy Agency postulated the establishment of a separate body for this purpose. However, many delegations favoured the principle that IAEA should carry out the function of control over nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. Thus, the International Atomic Energy Agency would be in a position to assume more extensive responsibility. We strongly believe that the new area of activity entrusted to it will be performed with confidence, knowledge and competence, and to the benefit of all its members.
77. The Polish delegation will vote in favour of the draft resolution submitted by Australia, Brazil and Hungary [*A/L.582*].
78. Mr. HAYMERLE (Austria): Under the present item the General Assembly is seized of the annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency [*A/7637 and Add.1*] submitted to us in accordance with the relevant provision of the agreement governing the relationship between the United Nations and IAEA.
79. As in the past, the report, which was just introduced by Mr. Eklund in such a competent manner, presents us with a clear and comprehensive picture of the activities carried out by the Agency the past year. I should like to take this opportunity to express to the organization, its Board of Governors and its distinguished Director-General, our sincere appreciation of the manner in which the Agency has discharged its complex and important task in the field of international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.
80. We note from the report that Mr. Eklund has been reappointed Director-General of the Agency for another term of four years. The Austrian delegation wishes to express to Mr. Eklund its warmest congratulations. We are indeed happy to learn that his experienced leadership will continue to guide the activities of IAEA.
81. The discussions and initiatives stimulated by last year's Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States have made this Assembly aware to an ever-increasing extent of the significance of the development and practical application of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.
82. Most of the problems which have been under consideration by the Board of Governors of the Agency, and subsequently by its General Conference, have also been the subject of extensive discussions in the First Committee of this Assembly in connexion with the disarmament items. There is indeed a close relationship between the problems of disarmament and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. This relationship of interdependence is perhaps best reflected in the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which entered into force a short time ago, and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of

Nuclear Weapons, which we hope will soon follow that example. In both these treaties the Agency is called upon to fulfil important functions.

83. In this context I wish to mention particularly the application of the Agency's safeguards system. Although the non-proliferation Treaty is not yet in force, its requirements relating to international safeguards are already engaging the Agency's attention. We feel that the IAEA safeguard system has proved its value and effectiveness. We believe furthermore that the built-in requirement for periodic reviews is a guarantee that the verification procedures will be constantly improved and adapted as technical progress permits.

84. A second item which deserves our special attention is the composition of the Agency's Board of Governors. During the twelfth session of the General Conference in 1968 the Agency set in motion, on an urgent basis, the review of that composition. It was thereby guided by the wish expressed by many non-nuclear member States to participate more actively in the organs of the Agency. In its resolution GC(XII)/RES/241 on the subject, the Conference expressed the desire that the Agency should be in the best position to carry out the new responsibilities which it will assume with the eventual entry into force of the non-proliferation Treaty. My delegation, which voted in favour of that resolution, subscribes fully to its purposes.

85. In the meantime, the Board has acted on that resolution and submitted a report, contained in IAEA document GC(XIII)408, to this year's General Conference. Responsive to the wide interest in the subject, the Board was helped in drafting its report by an *ad hoc* committee of all members of the Agency which was set up especially for this purpose. Although the Board was not able to submit a draft amendment in time to permit its consideration by the thirteenth General Conference, we trust that the next General Conference will be able to agree on a practical solution acceptable to the members and in accordance with the present and future tasks of the Agency. In this context we are heartened to learn from the statements made by the Governors of the Agency that every effort will be made to submit a suitable amendment to the next IAEA General Conference to achieve a broader and more equitable representation.

86. There is another subject to which I should like briefly to refer now. Peaceful nuclear explosions—that is, possible industrial application of nuclear explosive devices—promise to become a decisive factor in the harnessing of nature and its resources. Although this technology is only at an early stage of development, the Agency, following resolutions of the United Nations and responsive to the relevant provision of the non-proliferation Treaty, has initiated a report on its responsibility to provide services in connexion with nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

87. The report to which I refer was the subject of an interesting and fruitful discussion in the First Committee at the present session of the Assembly. My delegation co-sponsored a draft resolution [A/C.1/L.502] regarding the establishment, within the framework of the IAEA, of an international service for nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. That draft resolution was adopted on 10 December 1969 by the First Committee without opposition.

88. The Austrian Government stated its attitude previously in a note to the Secretary-General [A/7678/Add.1]. There we expressed the opinion that the Agency should assume the role referred to in article V of the non-proliferation Treaty and serve as the appropriate international body through which potential benefits from the peaceful application of nuclear explosions would be made available to non-nuclear-weapon States. We regard these tasks as falling clearly within the statutory purview of IAEA.

89. Lastly, I wish to commend the Agency for the valuable progress report which it has made to the Secretary-General in connexion with certain of the recommendations made by the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States and for the help it has provided in the preparation of the Secretary-General's report on the contributions of nuclear technology to the economic and scientific advancement of the developing countries.

90. A draft resolution on these recommendations [A/C.1/L.497 and Add.1], which was also co-sponsored by Austria, was adopted on 10 December 1969 by the First Committee by a vast majority. In this context we attach particular importance to the recommendation that the Agency and the various international and regional financing institutions should co-operate in finding ways and means of financing meritorious nuclear projects, bearing in mind their long-term contributions to the economies of the countries in question. We feel that, in the light of those considerations, more financial support will become indispensable if we wish to spread and develop evenly the benefits of nuclear energy in all countries, and especially the developing countries.

91. The Agency's activities during the past year give ample evidence of its dynamism and expertise. On the basis of this record we are confident that the Agency will successfully meet the new challenging tasks with the efficiency and competence which have marked its activities in the past.

92. Mr. DIOCONESCU (Romania) (*translated from French*): The report of the International Atomic Energy Agency which is before us for consideration [A/7637 and Add.1] offers a synthesis of the activities of the Agency over the past year and of the main problems with which it is confronted at the present time. This synthesis was substantially rounded out for us by the Director-General of IAEA in his important statement today.

93. Before offering its comments on the report, my delegation would like to take this opportunity to reiterate its warm congratulations to Mr. Sigvard Eklund on his unanimous election to the high office of Director-General of the Agency, which he has served with competence and devotion.

94. A realistic evaluation of the practical activities undertaken within the Agency over the past 12 months, as indeed in the preceding periods, can be made only on the basis of the purposes and principles enshrined in the Agency's Statute. In this context, my delegation thinks it is well to recall once again the provisions of article II of the Statute of IAEA, which states that: "The Agency shall seek to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to

peace, health and prosperity throughout the world.” In order to attain that lofty objective, the Agency must ensure, within the limits of the means made available to it, that the aid which it provides or which is provided at its request, or under its direction and control, is not used for military purposes.

Mr. Boyd (Panama), Vice-President, took the Chair.

95. The article that I have just recalled lays down the primary purpose, the very *raison d'être* of the Agency, namely, to accelerate and increase the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity. By indicating that in the pursuit of that objective the Agency has the whole world in view, this article proclaims unequivocally the principle of the universality of IAEA, for no interpretation of the term “throughout the world” can leave out any country.

96. Nevertheless, despite the political exigencies and those of international law, despite the practical reasons which call for fruitful co-operation in a field as vast and as dynamic as the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes with the participation of all States, a great nuclear Power, the People's Republic of China, and other socialist countries are excluded. The interests of international co-operation in this field, as also the effectiveness of IAEA, demand that this situation should be brought to an end by the creation of the necessary conditions to enable the People's Republic of China, the German Democratic Republic and other socialist countries to participate in the Agency's activities.

97. My delegation notes with satisfaction the advances made by the Agency during the past year, among which progress concerning nuclear energy, the training of cadres, the promotion of research, technical and scientific data and, in particular, the creation of an International Nuclear Information Service.

98. All countries of the world are aware of the unlimited prospects that the peaceful uses of nuclear energy can offer their national economies. That attitude is quite understandable if one takes into consideration the fact that nuclear energy is particularly able to contribute to the economic and social development of all States and to play an important role in reducing the inequalities in development in our world.

99. The broad range of peaceful uses of the atom, the efforts made in that field by many countries and the international co-operation which is rapidly developing, the interest displayed by all States and the results already obtained are only a few of the reasons justifying a feeling of optimism about the immediate and long-term possibilities that atomic energy places at man's disposal. It remains only to take full advantage of this unprecedented prospect.

100. Hence it is necessary to prohibit the use of nuclear energy for the production of destruction weapons, to cease the arms race and to get rid of the weapons created to employ the destructive force of the atom, thus opening up a broad field to the unimpeded use of atomic energy for the benefit of progress and civilization. In our opinion, articles IV, V and VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [*resolution 2372 (XXII)*] contain very useful provisions in this respect.

101. There is no denying that nuclear energy represents one of the most important aspects of the peaceful application of the atom. The remarkable achievements in this field strengthen the idea that in the very near future nuclear energy and the traditional forms of energy will be competing with each other.

102. This year the Agency has devoted special attention to the economic implications of nuclear power. It has undertaken technical and comparative studies, exchanges of information and conferences of scientists, the importance of which can escape no one. The pursuit of comparative, technical and economic studies concerning the various types of reactors which, in the near future, may prove competitive and the fundamental characteristics of electro-nuclear power stations seem to us to be of practical value to States.

103. Among the manifold activities of the Agency in the course of this year, we should like to draw attention to those relating to sea water desalination and to the studies of agro-industrial complexes using nuclear power stations.

104. The Romanian delegation has had occasion, during the debates in the First Committee, to comment favourably on the report entitled “Contributions of nuclear technology to the economic and scientific advancement of the developing countries” [*A/7568*]. We shall confine ourselves today to mentioning, in that connexion, the excellent aid provided by the Agency to the group of experts called upon by the Secretary-General to draw up that report, in the work of which a Romanian expert participated.

105. Appreciating as we do the special importance of scientific research for the solution of the problems to which the peaceful use of nuclear energy gives rise, the Romanian delegation views with favour the efforts of the Agency to stimulate research. More research contracts should be concluded and the practice of putting joint research programmes into effect should be continued, for, according to the general opinion, they have proved highly profitable.

106. We think that special attention should be given to the industrial uses of nuclear energy, because of the favourable economic effects they could have and to its uses in agriculture, medicine, biology, geology and hydrology.

107. My Government is following sympathetically the efforts that the Agency is making to intensify its co-operation with other agencies of the United Nations family and has noted with satisfaction the positive results achieved in that direction in its relations with the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization and other agencies. My country is convinced that it is necessary to strengthen and diversify the co-operation between IAEA and the other specialized agencies, for such co-operation may enable States to find solutions to the difficult problems encountered in that relatively new and exceedingly complicated field.

108. During the period covered by the report of the Agency, the problem of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes and the role devolving upon IAEA in that connexion was undoubtedly one of the most important

problems that arose. It is an axiomatic truth that nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes have added new elements to the vast range of peaceful uses of atomic energy. I shall mention the magnificent prospects opened up in certain fields: vast civil engineering works, the exploitation of natural gas and petroleum deposits, the development of water resources, scientific research and so on.

109. The Romanian delegation considers that the studies already undertaken in this respect have been useful and that they should be pursued further. It thinks that special attention should be given to information activities on the research carried out in this field, so that all States will be able to take advantage of it.

110. Romania, which considers that IAEA is the most appropriate organ to deal with the question of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, has constantly stressed the need to ensure that all countries, without discrimination, benefit from them. Article V of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons lays down firm legal obligations to this effect.

111. With respect to the amendment of article VI of the Agency's Statute with a view to enlarging the membership of the Board of Governors, the position of the Romanian Government was set forth in detail at the last session of the General Conference of IAEA.¹² As we stated on that occasion, the Romanian delegation favours the idea of enlarging the membership of the Board of Governors in order to establish it on unanimously accepted principles which will take due account of the need to ensure that this body has both the necessary effectiveness and an equitable geographical distribution.

112. In our opinion, if a certain number of seats are to be retained permanently on the Board of Governors, they should be allocated according to criteria already recognized in international practice.

113. The Socialist Republic of Romania, which is committed with all its energy and resources to a vast process designed to develop a dynamic and modern economy, is actively interested in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in various sectors and more particularly in nuclear power and the application of isotopes and radiation in all branches of the national economy. It is therefore natural that the Romanian Government should be interested in this vast domain which we sum up under the brief formula of "the peaceful utilization of atomic energy".

114. The Romanian delegation cherishes the belief that the International Atomic Energy Agency, thanks to its experience, by taking advantage of the ideas, suggestions and proposals made in the course of these debates, by developing those activities which have proved useful and by discovering others, in conformity with the principles which should govern relations among States, will be able to make a valuable contribution not only to the establishment of fruitful co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, but also to the promotion of peace and progress throughout the world.

115. Mr. BOZINOVIC (Yugoslavia): The role of the International Atomic Energy Agency and what is expected

from it has of late been frequently stressed, especially in reference to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and with reference to the 1968 Geneva Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States.

116. The annual report of the Board of Governors to the General Conference, which we have before us, represents one of the two documents comprising the IAEA report to the General Assembly [*A/7637 and Add.1*]. It contains a number of elements that are undoubtedly of great interest to the international community, especially to the developing countries.

117. However, the short time at our disposal does not allow us to examine in detail the individual aspects of the report. The General Assembly has been receiving the report of IAEA for years. The report, as is known, is considered in the plenary Assembly, usually at one meeting and without examination of any of its details. Given this situation, my delegation will limit itself to pointing out only a few questions.

118. The Yugoslav delegation is concerned about the fact that in spite of dedicated efforts the activity of IAEA remains today on such a financial level that it cannot fully cope with the growing needs of the developing countries. This is a major problem and it requires an urgent solution. A few indications will serve as sufficient evidence of this.

119. The percentage of the regular programme of technical assistance that is achieved is declining from year to year. In 1962, it amounted to 49.5 per cent and in 1969 only to 26.4 per cent. Sixty-nine requests under the regular programme for 1969 were approved, while 47 were rejected for lack of funds. Perhaps all these figures do not portray a vivid picture of the situation unless it is pointed out that the entire yearly regular programme of technical assistance amounts to about \$1.5 million.

120. The IAEA report notes in paragraph 65 that

"Developing countries are showing greater interest in nuclear energy in general and in new applications, such as desalting, nuclear energy complexes and nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes."

It is estimated that the world nuclear capacity will increase in 1980 to 300-350,000 megawatts but also that the allocation of those capacities will be such that less than 5 per cent will be outside the principal industrial countries. The cost of nuclear projects is very high. This in itself reveals the prohibitive nature of a number of nuclear projects in relation to developing countries. That is not all. The position of the poorer countries is deteriorating even more. The development of atomic power plants is oriented towards large units which are more profitable, units which, owing to the total costs involved, are inaccessible to smaller countries.

121. The International Atomic Energy Agency budget structure invites our attention, on the one hand because the resources allocated for the primary activity are far from satisfactory and, on the other, because outlays for financing safeguard programmes are also increasing to the detriment of assistance to developing countries.

¹² Thirteenth regular session, 23 to 29 September 1969.

122. In connexion with the financial situation and the growing needs of developing countries for technical assistance, we welcome resolution GC(XIII)/RES/256 of the thirteenth General Conference of IAEA which—and I quote:

“Requests the Director-General to make a comprehensive study of the likely capital and foreign exchange requirements for nuclear projects in developing countries during the next decade, and of ways and means to secure financing for such projects from international and other sources . . .”

123. Another major issue dealt with by the Agency is the enlargement of the Board of Governors (Review of article VI of the Statute). The Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States in its declaration—which was endorsed by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session [*resolution 2456 (XXIII)*—expressed its conviction that IAEA “should adapt itself adequately for its further responsibilities”. It is understandable that such a request obviously implies not only the expansion of the Board of Governors but also further specific changes which, among other things, would facilitate a more active participation by a number of countries than under the existing situation.

124. These are only some of the questions emerging from the report of IAEA towards the solution of which the General Assembly would probably like to make its contribution and render its assistance. We have only mentioned these questions and did not deal with their substance. More time is needed to examine those problems here within the context of the report submitted by IAEA.

125. Because of this situation, the Yugoslav delegation would like to suggest that beginning in 1970 the report of IAEA be allocated as an item to the Special Political Committee, where through a more penetrating debate it would be possible to gain a greater insight into a number of important problems and to try to explore ways and means of solving some of them as, in the opinion of the Yugoslav delegation, they call for the serious attention of the General Assembly. In fact, one should point out that this year such consideration of the activities of IAEA has already started in the First Committee and there is no reason to stop half-way.

126. My delegation would like to express its appreciation to the Director-General of IAEA, Dr. Eklund, for presenting a concise and to-the-point report and for giving us a clear picture of the efforts and the achievements of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the course of the year. We should also like to avail ourselves of this occasion to congratulate Dr. Eklund on his reappointment as Director-General.

127. Mr. PAVLIK (Czechoslovak Socialist Republic) (*translated from Russian*): Throughout the 13 years of IAEA's existence, Czechoslovakia has fully supported its work, recognizing it as highly valuable to the international community, especially in a sphere of such tremendous importance to the future of mankind as the peaceful use of atomic energy.

128. The recent diverse and many-sided activities of this international organization are very clearly and convincingly

illustrated in the report of its Director-General, Dr. Eklund [*A/7637 and Add.1*].

129. Czechoslovakia has already had an opportunity, at the thirteenth session of the Agency's General Conference, of making a detailed statement on the Agency's work and problems.

130. I should nevertheless like to give some attention to certain problems and ideas concerning the Agency's future work.

131. Since it carries out its activities in a real world, its success largely depends on the general worldwide political situation. I should therefore like to point out that it would be beneficial to the Agency's further work if certain States could take part in it as full members—for instance, the German Democratic Republic, which strongly desires to make an appropriate contribution and has given convincing evidence of that desire for a number of years. Acceptance of the fully justified demand for the Agency's universality would have a favourable effect on its future work. An early solution of this problem is necessary because the German Democratic Republic has signed and ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [*resolution 2373 (XXII)*] and, in accordance with its article III, is bound to “accept safeguards, as set forth in an agreement to be negotiated and concluded with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Agency's safeguards system . . .”. Although the procedure for ratifying the Treaty is not distinguished by the swiftness which might rightly have been expected, yet gradually, especially of late, new favourable signs have shown that the moment is approaching when this highly important international instrument will begin to fulfil its purpose.

132. In accordance with the Treaty, the Agency faces the difficult and complicated duty of verifying the fulfilment of the obligations assumed by States parties. In the near future, therefore, it must put forward a draft model agreement on safeguards, and at the same time devise a procedure and a uniform system of technical and administrative measures for the implementation of control. The Czechoslovak delegation regards the solution of this problem as one of the Agency's most immediate and important tasks.

133. The Agency is also working on an important problem connected with article VI of its Statute, which deals with the composition of its Board of Governors. The details of this problem are being studied by an *ad hoc* committee of the Board, and the Czechoslovak delegation fully supports its work. We consider, however, that we need a viable agency in the future, and it is therefore vital that any change in the Board should have the effect of strengthening the Agency as a whole. My delegation believes that we must adopt a very responsible and thoughtful approach to this problem.

134. The scope and importance of man's activities relating to the peaceful use of atomic energy to hasten economic progress are increasing with the passage of time. Czechoslovakia looks forward to that future, for which, as the State which first mined uranium ore, it is equipped in every way. We have obtained good results in that direction. In

spite of extensive mining, our reserves of uranium ore are being increased by new deposits revealed by systematic geological prospecting. This has enabled us to build up a special uranium mining and processing industry in our country. We are also planning to construct large atomic electricity-generating plants.

135. We are therefore concerned that the peaceful uses of atomic energy should continue to develop successfully. They could do so within IAEA in accordance with the non-proliferation Treaty, which also solves the problem of the use of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. The Treaty provides for an international co-operation which would exclude all discrimination against non-nuclear States and could be organized either through an appropriate international body or pursuant to bilateral agreements. In our view, the present structure of IAEA fully equips it for the successful discharge of the functions of such an international body.

136. Further successful development of the peaceful uses of atomic energy will also largely depend on the degree of international co-operation in the exchange and use of technical information. Since Czechoslovakia desires to establish the best possible conditions for this co-operation, it is giving its full support to the development of the project for an International Nuclear Information Service, with a view to its coming into operation in 1970. It is ready to continue making its contribution to joint efforts for the advancement of this project.

137. We also take a favourable view of the Agency's work in the other branches of its many-sided activity, especially in the training and further training of experts, the organization of various scientific symposia and conferences, and the provision of technical assistance. We are endeavouring to support this work actively to the extent of our capacity. Accordingly, we each year make available to the Agency not only funds but also fellowships in Czechoslovak higher educational establishments and in the scientific institutes of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, and we welcome the holding of various scientific symposia of the Agency in our country. We respond systematically to requests from many developing countries, and send to them as part of the Agency's technical assistance provision a considerable number of our experts in subjects of special importance to them, such as the use of radio-isotopes in agriculture, medicine and other fields.

138. For all those reasons, the Czechoslovak delegation will support and vote for draft resolution A/L.582 submitted by Australia, Brazil and Hungary.

139. We approve of the work of IAEA during the period that has ended. We especially appreciate the valuable contribution made by Dr. Eklund, its Director-General, and we congratulate him on his re-election for four more years to the responsible office of Director-General of IAEA.

140. Mr. OGISO (Japan): At the outset I wish to join with other delegations in expressing on behalf of my delegation the warmest congratulations to Mr. Eklund on his reappointment as Director-General of the Agency.

141. The annual report of the Agency [A/7637 and Add.1], which is now before the General Assembly and

which was so ably introduced this morning by its Director-General, is once again a concise and factual document outlining the Agency's past activities. Although no spectacular expansion of the activities of the Agency is noticeable, steady progress has been made in the application of nuclear energy in the field of food and agriculture, medicine, biology, health and so on. The role which the Agency is expected to play for the exchange of information also deserves careful attention. We appreciate the important contribution made by the International Atomic Energy Agency in the development of the application of nuclear power for peaceful purposes, and we hope that it will continue its work in the same successful manner in the future.

142. Mr. Eklund devoted a considerable part of his statement this morning to the question of safeguards, in particular with respect to the safeguards system applicable under the non-proliferation Treaty. We are fully conscious of the complexity as well as the urgency of that problem.

143. In that connexion my delegation appreciates the efforts of the Agency in the technical study of the safeguards problem, such as the work of technical consultants and the convening of a panel of experts. Those technical studies by the experts will be very useful as preparatory work for the occasion when the Board of Governors of the Agency takes up this question in a more formal and comprehensive way in the near future.

144. In concluding my statement, I wish to add that the Japanese delegation will be happy to vote in favour of draft resolution A/L.582, submitted by Australia, Brazil and Hungary.

145. Mr. MENDELEVICH (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*translated from Russian*): My delegation first wishes to join in congratulating Dr. Eklund on his election to a further four-year term as Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency. We know the sense of responsibility and the competence with which Dr. Eklund, a great scientist and outstanding organizer and administrator, has been discharging his intricate and important duties as Director-General of this Agency for nearly 10 years. We wish him further great success in this high office, in the interests of all.

146. The annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency which is submitted for the General Assembly's consideration [A/7637 and Add.1] and the information which Dr. Eklund, the Agency's Director-General, has given us in his closely-reasoned and convincing statement demonstrate the importance of the Agency's present work and its constantly widening scope. It includes the provision of technical assistance to developing States in the peaceful uses of atomic energy; the granting of fellowships for the training of experts, chiefly from developing countries; the arrangement of safeguards for atomic plants in more than 30 States; stimulation and co-ordination of safeguards research and development, including the use of instruments; development of the International Nuclear Information Service (INIS); study of nuclear desalting; the establishment and promotion of programmes for the use of nuclear energy in the food industry and in agriculture, medicine, biology, hydrology and geology; the holding of a series of important

research seminars and symposia in Europe, America, Africa and other regions of the world; preparations for the Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy; and the many other practical pursuits of IAEA.

147. The statement made by the USSR delegation in the debate on the Agency's report at the twenty-third session of the General Assembly [1751st meeting] emphasizes that the Agency was embarking on a new and more significant stage of its work linked to the conclusion of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. This point was made by many other delegations at that time. We should now like to observe that IAEA appreciates the importance of its new tasks.

148. The Agency's report makes clear that its work is already being planned this year to include the new functions that it will undertake as soon as the non-proliferation Treaty enters into force. This applies in particular to its important function of controlling the peaceful use of atomic energy by non-nuclear States parties in order to prevent its conversion to the manufacture of nuclear weapons.

149. We believe the Agency's secretariat has done substantial work on the drafting of a model control agreement, which must now be completed so that when the non-proliferation Treaty enters into force, the Agency may be ready to apply control in practice.

150. At the same time the Agency is organizing scientific and technical conferences in order to settle the technical aspects of control. The basic conclusion, confirmed once more by the results of this work, is that the present IAEA safeguards system provides the necessary firm scientific and technical foundations for the implementation of control in accordance with the non-proliferation Treaty.

151. Another important duty of IAEA under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is that of handling problems connected with the use of atomic explosions for peaceful purposes for the benefit of non-nuclear-weapon countries. It seems now to be generally accepted that IAEA is the most suitable organization to undertake these tasks.

152. The report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the General Assembly favours the view "that the Agency take on the role of the international service for the peaceful uses of nuclear explosions" [A/7678].

153. The Agency last year carried out a detailed study of the functions it could perform in this important sphere. As we know, those States which wished to do so communicated their views on this problem to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the Agency. An *ad hoc* committee composed of representatives of the Agency's member States worked on this question, and its meetings produced a useful exchange of views on the Agency's responsibility for servicing nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

154. As a result of that careful and thorough examination of the various aspects of the problem of conducting peaceful nuclear explosions in accordance with the non-

proliferation Treaty, the Agency's Board of Governors decided that performance "of the functions of the international body referred to in Article V 'of the non-proliferation Treaty' are within the Agency's technical competence and clearly fall within the scope of its statutory functions".

155. The Agency's immediate tasks in this sphere were also defined: collection of scientific and technical information, study of the economic aspects of nuclear explosions, and so on. The Board of Governors stated that at the present stage the Agency's tasks in relation to peaceful nuclear explosions could be carried out within its existing structure by the Department of Technical Operations.

156. In September 1969, the General Conference of IAEA unanimously approved these conclusions of the Board of Governors, thereby expressing the opinion of more than 100 States members.

157. All these proceedings, of course, are only the Agency's very first steps towards providing a service for the peaceful use of nuclear explosions. It will have to face much more complex practical problems in this field in the future. The USSR, for its part, fully supports the policy adopted by the Agency in this connexion. It is approaching with a complete sense of responsibility its obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to carry out peaceful nuclear explosions for non-nuclear States, and has already given the Agency practical assistance in this respect. It has transmitted to the Agency a series of scientific and technical reports by Soviet scientists on the problem of the peaceful use of nuclear explosions. These reports give concrete examples of possible purposes for which nuclear explosions can be used in a national economy, such as the construction of canals and reservoirs, the underground working and opening-up of mineral deposits, and the intensified extraction of oil and gas. They also deal with the important question of methods of forecasting radio-active contamination.

158. As the Soviet delegation stated at the thirteenth session of the Agency's General Conference, the USSR will continue to supply the Agency with such information.

159. The conclusion of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons will undoubtedly also influence favourably the Agency's activities in international co-operation for the peaceful use of atomic energy.

160. Mr. Gromyko, Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union, said in his address to the meeting of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR at which the non-proliferation Treaty was ratified:

"The Treaty, which prohibits the use of atomic energy for the manufacture of weapons, also provides the parties with opportunities for broad co-operation in developing the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes."

A separate article of the Treaty deals with that matter. He continued:

"We state quite openly to all States that, as parties to the Treaty, in addition to the obligations imposed on

them, they can fully avail themselves of the rights, which are the same for all signatory States, with respect to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.”

161. By a noteworthy coincidence, just when the Agency is preparing to exercise the control functions given it by the non-proliferation Treaty, it is completing its preparations for the inception in 1970 of the first International Nuclear Information Service. This event will mark a great step forward by giving all countries an opportunity of learning about the most advanced achievements in the peaceful uses of atomic energy, and of obtaining any information published anywhere in the world on all aspects of nuclear science and technology. The Soviet Union was one of the founders of this Service. It fully supports the Service and will play a very active part in it.

162. The Soviet Union is taking effective action in the important matter of supplying States members of the Agency, especially the developing countries, with the fissionable materials necessary to the development of their atomic science and technology.

163. As long as 10 years ago, the USSR concluded an agreement with the Agency to place at its disposal a considerable quantity of uranium-235. This agreement specifically provided that these materials were to be supplied at “the lowest international prices in effect at the time of delivery”.¹³ We have learnt that this stock of fissionable material has not yet been fully used, and we should like again to signify the willingness of the USSR to supply interested countries with it.

164. Moreover, the USSR, aware of the developing countries’ needs for enriched uranium, announced in 1968 that it was ready to undertake this enrichment for countries desiring it. At the thirteenth session of the Agency’s General Conference in September 1969 the Soviet delegation stated that the USSR, acting through the Agency, was prepared to enrich uranium for States parties to the non-proliferation Treaty, and indicated the exact conditions under which this operation would be performed in the USSR.

165. An event of great importance for the mutual information of States concerning the latest achievements in atomic science and technology will be the Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy. As we know, IAEA played an active part in organizing the Third Conference in 1964. We are glad to note that it is now being charged with organizing the scientific and technical side of the Fourth Conference, and we are confident that it will fulfil this responsible duty with credit. It will need to begin at once to plan its work for the approaching Conference, and the USSR will provide all the necessary help.

166. In view of the new duties to be shouldered by the Agency when the non-proliferation Treaty enters into force, a very important condition for this Treaty’s effective execution is that the Agency should become a really universal international organization. The increase in its membership in recent years can therefore only be wel-

comed, particularly the admission in 1969 of Ireland, which was one of the first signatories of the non-proliferation Treaty and the first State to ratify it.

167. At the same time, it is becoming increasingly unacceptable that the German Democratic Republic should be banned from membership of the Agency. This country is a highly-developed socialist State with outstanding achievements to its credit in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. It has signed and ratified the non-proliferation Treaty, and has announced its readiness to place its atomic plants, in accordance with the Treaty, under IAEA safeguards. Its admission to membership would obviously contribute most effectively to the success of the Agency’s activities in every direction. To postpone settlement of this question is to act against the interests of international co-operation in the peaceful use of atomic energy and against restoration of the international situation to normal, since discrimination against this socialist State inevitably serves to complicate that situation.

168. In surveying the results of the Agency’s work over the past year, the Soviet delegation wishes to end by repeating that the Soviet Union is co-operating and will continue to co-operate in fulfilment of the Agency’s intricate and responsible tasks, the scope, nature and importance of which are constantly growing. It is therefore prepared to support the draft resolution on the Agency’s report submitted by Australia, Brazil and Hungary [A/L.582].

169. Mr. GARCÍA ROBLES (Mexico) (*translated from Spanish*): I should like to open this brief statement by expressing my delegation’s sincere congratulations to Mr. Sigvard Eklund, Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, for the well-deserved tribute paid to him by the General Conference of the Agency at its last meeting in its request to him to continue his important functions for a further four years.

170. We listened with the greatest interest to the statement made by the Director-General at the beginning of this meeting, just as earlier we had read the annual report of the Agency [A/7637 and Add.1] and other relevant documents, which give a comprehensive picture of the varied aspects of its activity to speed up and increase the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world, with due consideration, as laid down in its own Statute, for the special needs of the underdeveloped areas of the world.

171. I shall take the liberty of commenting on three of those aspects which are closely linked to resolutions taken by the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States and by the General Assembly itself.

172. With regard to the question of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, my delegation has noted with satisfaction that the Agency’s work has been directed in accordance with procedures which, generally speaking, correspond with the views expressed by the Mexican Government in the memorandum which it sent to the Director-General on 28 April 1969 and which is reproduced in document GC(XIII)/411 of the Agency’s General Conference. In that document we expressed our opinion that the Agency

¹³United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 339 (1959), p. 342, art. 3.

should concentrate, in the first stage of its work, on the technical, scientific and safety matters referred to by the Director-General in two documents transmitted to member States on 13 March last.

173. My delegation still thinks, as is indicated in the memorandum to which I have just referred, that the Agency's work in that field should not prejudge the content of the special international agreement provided for in article V of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons which, when the time comes, should define the identity, structure and functioning of the appropriate international body, which is also expressly mentioned in article V of that Treaty.

174. My Government gave its views on the matter in the fullest and most detailed manner in the memorandum which it sent to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 24 July last and which is also reproduced in document GC(XIII)/411 of the Agency's General Conference to which I alluded earlier. In this respect, it is worth mentioning that yesterday [1718th meeting] the First Committee of the General Assembly, in approving draft resolution A/C.1/L.502, co-sponsored by my delegation, decided that the question to which I am referring should remain open for examination and subsequent consultations.

175. With regard to the question of amending article VI of the Agency's Statute, we feel that, as a result of the consultations and deliberations which have already been held and which are to continue over the coming months, both in the Board of Governors and in the *Ad Hoc* Committee, the General Conference at its 1970 session will be able to approve an expanded membership of the Board which will meet the recommendations made by the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States and by the Agency's own Conference, particularly with regard to equitable geographical distribution and the proper representation of developing countries.

176. Some time ago my Government submitted to the *Ad Hoc* Committee a memorandum setting out specific proposals for the achievement of such aims.

177. My delegation shares the concern reflected in the Agency's report and other relevant documents regarding another matter which is the third of the three on which, as I indicated at the beginning of my statement, I should like to comment. I refer to the deplorable present situation as regards the financing of technical assistance—experts, professors, fellowships and equipment—which is of such importance to the developing countries.

178. According to the information in these documents, instead of progress in this field there has been a marked deterioration, for, as can be seen from the documents, in 1959 almost all the requests could be met. From 1960 to 1963, on the other hand, it was possible to handle only half of the requests, and in 1969, the year that is about to conclude, we have reached the discouraging situation in which only one quarter of the requests will receive attention. We think that this is a situation which we should make urgent efforts to remedy.

179. Before I conclude, I should like, as a representative of the State that has the honour of being the depository of

the Treaty of Tlatelolco, to thank Mr. Eklund, the Director-General of the Agency, once again for having honoured us with his presence, on 2 September last, at the inaugural meeting of the General Conference, which is the supreme organ of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (OPANAL), in whose control system, as is known and as Mr. Eklund himself recalled in his statement today, the International Atomic Energy Agency plays an outstanding role.

180. Mr. SEN (India): The morning is fairly well advanced and I shall not take more than a few minutes. The Assembly has before it the annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency [A/7637 and Add.1], which gives a broad indication of the programme of work undertaken by that important organization during the year July 1968 to June 1969. We offer our congratulations to Dr. Eklund on his reappointment as the Director-General of the IAEA.

181. In introducing the report the Director-General has made an interesting and important statement. Many of the suggestions and conclusions given by the Director-General will require careful examination and the delegation of India will study his statement most carefully. As soon as our study is completed, we shall make our views known.

182. There is one point, however, to which I should like to make a brief reference. The question of peaceful nuclear explosions and the association of IAEA in that report was the subject of discussion in the First Committee on 10 December 1969. Since my delegation's views were made fully clear there, I shall not take the time of the Assembly to repeat them here. This is also in conformity with the practice of our delegation that we do not like to discuss the same subject in different places at the same conference. Apart from this, we should like to concentrate our attention on the annual report, which, as the representative of Australia emphasized, is in two parts. We shall take note of that report and support the draft resolution of 8 December 1969 submitted jointly by the delegations of Australia, Brazil and Hungary [A/L.582]. We have, however, noted with some apprehension paragraph 13 of the introduction to the report. That paragraph indicates that the Agency's ability to respond to requests for technical assistance from its member States has dropped in 1969 to about 25 per cent. In 1968 the Agency could meet about 30 per cent of such requests. This reduction of the Agency's capacity to help in that important field seems due entirely to the fact that the Agency has not been able to reach its target of \$2 million from voluntary contributions by member States. We would add our voice to the new appeals issued by the Director-General to member States and trust that the response will be more than adequate. The Agency could then meet all worth-while requests for technical assistance from member States.

183. It may not be out of place to inform the Assembly that India contributed \$35,000 as its voluntary contribution to the general fund of the Agency for the year 1969, as against a percentage assessment of \$31,000. This is in conformity with our policy that member States should contribute to the operational budget of the Agency voluntarily and not strictly on the basis of assessment. In addition to its voluntary contributions, India also paid a

contribution of \$172,000 in foreign exchange to the regular budget of the Agency. India has further offered, at its own cost of course, five training fellowships to the nominees of the Agency, on a continuing basis. Five additional fellowships are offered subject to the availability of facilities. Each of those fellowships carries a stipend of 1,000 rupees per month.

184. The Indian delegation to the General Conference of IAEA, together with other delegations, stressed the need to ensure that the Agency's programme of technical assistance, which is quite insignificant because of lack of funds, is not further reduced by growing demands in other fields, particularly in the realm of safeguards. We have spoken about the necessity of examining the long-term prospects of availability of resources in relation to the increasing responsibilities of the Agency. My delegation welcomes the proposal that the Director-General should convene a high-level panel to undertake a systematic study of past and future expenditure, keeping in mind the cost of the Agency's activities in other fields and the available resources. We are confident that the objective assessment which the proposed study would undertake would be of great help to the Agency in planning its future work, at least in some fields.

185. Mrs. KRISTENSSON (Sweden): First of all, let me express my delegation's congratulations on, and warm appreciation of the work during the past year of the International Atomic Energy Agency at Vienna, as set out so clearly in the report now before us and in the lucid presentation of that report just given here by the Director-General of the Agency. The report bears full testimony to the fact that the Agency is one of the most progressive members of the family of United Nations organizations.

186. In recent years the political importance of IAEA has increased. That development is linked with the increased role of the Agency's control functions. The most significant impetus in that field is provided by the nuclear non-proliferation Treaty. Recent decisions by several Governments either to sign or to ratify the Treaty have led to definite hopes that it will come into force during 1970. In this context, I might mention that the Swedish Government expects to ratify the non-proliferation Treaty in the very near future.

187. An important part of the legal structure of the Treaty and its prohibitory rules will consist of bilateral agreements between the parties and the Agency. My Government has recently indicated to the Agency its

willingness to start negotiations with a view to concluding such a bilateral agreement.

188. The report makes it clear that the Agency's importance in providing technical assistance for developing countries in the vital field of nuclear energy is increasing from year to year. At the same time, the lack of adequate funds makes that work less effective than it could be. We hope that 1970 will see additional funds made available. Only then will the Agency be able to fulfil its role and to provide much-needed leadership and guidance for the application of nuclear technology in different fields of economic development.

189. It is not my intention here to go into the activities of the Agency in great detail. Before concluding my remarks, I should just like to comment briefly on the role that the Agency is called upon to play in the field of the preservation of the human environment. Nuclear technology is still only in its first stages of development. We have here a field where the options remain open for us to guide developments in a direction that will make it possible to take precautions to preserve and defend the vital qualities of our human environment and Dr. Eklund's presentation gave us cause for optimism in that respect.

190. More important from the environmental point of view is, of course, the fact that the relatively clean nuclear energy can be substituted for other traditional forms of energy which today constitute some of our most important environmental hazards. Much stands to be gained from concerted international studies and efforts in regard to these problems.

191. I should like to pledge here the full support of my country for the important work of the Agency in this field, a sector of its activities which will make an important contribution to the wide-ranging efforts of the United Nations in this area of such close concern to us all.

192. The PRESIDENT (*translated from Spanish*): The General Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/L.582.

193. May I take it that the Assembly adopts the draft resolution?

The draft resolution was adopted [resolution 2536 (XXIV)].

The meeting rose at 1.45 p.m.